

Docket No.: 00 P 7658 US

App. No.: 09/586,557

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A dependability system, comprising a hierarchical arrangement of two or more nodes each having a fault analyzer object programmed to respond to status information relating to an associated system of one or more objects based upon a respective set of policies designed to improve object availability, wherein a first fault analyzer object is configured to report object status information to a second fault analyzer object, the first fault analyzer object being configured to register with the second fault analyzer object.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein a fault analyzer object is assigned responsibility for one or more component objects.

5. (Original) The system of claim 4, wherein the component objects correspond to software applications.

6. (Original) The system of claim 4, further comprising a component interface configured to connect the fault analyzer object to the one or more component objects.

7. (Currently Amended) A dependability system, comprising a hierarchical arrangement of two or more nodes each having a fault analyzer object programmed to respond to status information relating to an associated system of one or more objects based upon a respective set of policies designed to improve object availability and a component interface configured to connect the fault analyzer object to the one or more

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component objects. ~~The system of claim 6~~, wherein the fault analyzer object is configured to issue to the component interface object control instructions for changing the operational state of one or more of the component objects.

8. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein each fault analyzer object is configured to determine the health of the assigned system.

9. (Currently Amended) A dependability system, comprising a hierarchical arrangement of two or more nodes each having a fault analyzer object programmed to respond to status information relating to an associated system of one or more objects based upon a respective set of policies designed to improve object availability, wherein each fault analyzer object is configured to determine the health of the assigned system and ~~The system of claim 8~~, wherein each fault analyzer includes logic in the form of a dynamic linked library for determining the health of the assigned system.

10. (Original) The system of claim 9, wherein each dynamic linked library is dynamically replaceable.

11. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein a fault analyzer object includes a state machine.

12. (Currently Amended) A dependability system, comprising a hierarchical arrangement of two or more nodes each having a fault analyzer object programmed to respond to status information relating to an associated system of one or more objects based upon a respective set of policies designed to improve object availability, wherein a fault analyzer object includes a state machine, ~~The system of claim 11, wherein the state machine being~~ [[is]] dynamically replaceable.

13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12 [[11]], wherein the state machine is event driven.

14. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12 [[11]], wherein the state machine automatically changes state.

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15. (Canceled)
16. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the nodes are implemented on a single network system.
17. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the nodes are implemented on separate systems of a packet switched network.
18. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein each fault analyzer object is implemented in software.
19. (Original) A telephony system, comprising:
  - a packet switched network;
  - a gatekeeper coupled to the packet switched network;
  - a server coupled to the packet switched network and configured to process telephone calls over the packet switched network; and
  - a dependability system comprising a hierarchical arrangement of two or more nodes each having a fault analyzer object programmed to respond to received status information relating to an assigned system of one or more objects of the telephony system based upon a set of policies designed to improve object availability.
20. (Canceled)
21. (Canceled)
22. (Canceled)